

Application No. 10/652,483
Response to 10/18/2006 Office Action

REMARKS

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 3, 17 and 20 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has rewritten claims 3, 17 and 20 in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims. Applicant has cancelled the remaining previously pending claims 1, 4-8, 18 and 19. Claims 9, 11, 13 and 15 were withdrawn as directed to a non-elected sub-combination.

It is noted that any claim amendments are made to merely clarify the language of each claim, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing cancellation of all but the claims indicated as allowable, Applicant submits that all the claims presently pending in the Application are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above Application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at the local telephone number

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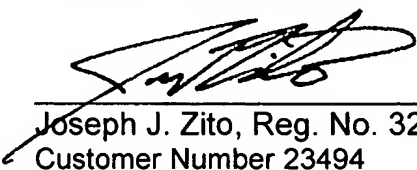
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listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Client's Deposit Account No. 20-0668.


Respectfully Submitted,

Date: January 18, 2007



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 18, 2007.



Joyce Porter 1-18-07
Date